

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1 and 5 as follows (clean copy; a marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached as an Appendix hereto):

1. (Amended) A method of purifying an organic phosphoric ester, comprising treating a crude organic phosphoric ester with an epoxy compound and thereafter treating it with an alkaline aqueous solution.

5. (Twice amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the method further comprises treating the organic phosphoric ester with water or an acidic aqueous solution after the treatment with the epoxy compound and in advance of the treatment with the alkaline aqueous solution.

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections made in the Office Action are respectfully requested, in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

**Summary of Amendments**

By the foregoing amendments claims 1 and 5 are amended, whereby claims 1-13 are